Minutes

Mary Opperman, Vice President for Human Resources and Safety Services and Susan Murphy, Vice President for Student and Academic Services, welcomed everyone to the Council meeting.

After introductions, Susan reported on the recent discussions that happened at the January 2015 Board of Trustees meetings about sexual violence on campus. She felt that there were very engaging discussions with Board members at the Student Life Committee meeting. Cornell law student Annie O’Toole discussed her research that examined policies, patterns and trends across our Ivy peers. Kathy Zoner, Chief of Police, Mary Beth Grant, JA, Nina Cummings, Victim Advocate, and Nora Salvatore, Associate University Counsel, joined Mary and Susan in reporting on current judicial, legal and educational efforts at the University in regard to compliance (statistical data, Clery Act and VAWA) as well as what we are doing regarding future innovative educational efforts. The need to move forward and focus on how we can shift the paradigm from prevention of sexual violence to changing the culture was discussed.

Presentations:
Nina introduced the presenters Heather Campbell and Lt. Phil Mospan.

- Understanding Intimate Partner Violence on Campus and Its Intersection with Sexual Violence
  Heather Campbell, Executive Director of the Advocacy Center of Tompkins County

- Intimate Partner Violence on College Campuses
  Lieutenant Philip Mospan of the Cornell University Police Department

Update on Cornell’s participation in the AAU Survey
Marne Einarson, Asst. Director, Institutional Research and Planning gave an update on the AAU Survey and Cornell’s participation in the survey development to date. There are currently 28 research universities participating. Topics that will be surveyed include asking questions about perceptions, sexual violence on campus and bystander behavior. The survey will be anonymous, web-based and launched on April 13, 2015. Approximately 800,000 students from all of the participating schools will be invited to fill out the survey. Westat (survey research group) should be sending data back to institutions around September 1, 2015. An aggregate report will be put together (institutions will not be identified).

Susan Murphy said that Cornell will need to discuss how and what information/results are disseminated outward. Next steps will be to create a Communication plan for informing the campus about the survey. In addition to Marne’s work, there have been some Cornell students involved in the question pre-testing phase. Susan also mentioned that there has been some controversy on campus about this. However, most of the concern was more about the process and not the topics to be surveyed. She did include that recent CSVP presenter, Melanie Boyd from Yale, has been very involved in the survey process. Finally, she added that Cornell will also need to think about an ongoing method to continue surveying on this topic.

Both Mary and Susan thanked all three presenters as well as the council members.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm